

# ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

## DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### NEWS RELEASE



*Cora Campbell, Commissioner*  
*Jeff Regnart, Director*



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Lower Yukon Area Office  
P.O. Box 127  
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Date Issued: 8/29/12  
Time: 12:00 p.m.

#### **2012 Yukon River Fall Salmon Fishery News Release # 39**

#### **Fall Announcement # 33, District 1 Commercial Period 13**

Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

#### **District Y-1**

Commercial fishing will be open for one period in the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** of District Y-1 on Thursday, August 30, from 9:00 a.m. until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 12-hour commercial fishing period for the **Coastal Set Net Only Area** with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

The remainder of District Y-1 will be open to commercial fishing on Thursday, August 30, from 12:00 noon until 9:00 p.m. This will be a 9-hour commercial fishing period with gillnets restricted to six-inch or smaller mesh.

For the entire District Y-1, no Chinook salmon can be sold during this commercial opening. Fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or use them for subsistence purposes. **Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.**

By regulation, the fall chum salmon directed commercial fishery in the Lower Yukon River Districts 1 and 2 closes after August 31. The preliminary cumulative fall chum salmon commercial harvest for Lower Yukon River (Districts Y-1 and Y-2) through August 28 is 259,108 fish. Currently, this is the second largest commercial harvest of fall chum salmon on record and above the most recent 5-year (2007-2011) average of 87,400 fish. The preliminary cumulative coho salmon commercial harvest for Lower Yukon River (Districts Y-1 and Y-2) through August 28 is 60,500 and currently is the second largest commercial harvest since 1991.

The 2012 coho salmon run is currently being assessed as below average. Through August 28, coho salmon passage past the Pilot Station sonar project is 77,874 fish. This is below the

historical median of 111,665 for that date. Any further commercial openings in Districts 1 and 2 will depend on improving coho salmon run strength.

In District Y-1 subsistence salmon fishing will close at 9:00 p.m. Wednesday, August 29, and reopen at 9:00 a.m. Friday, August 31.

Recorded fishery announcements and updates will be available 24 hours a day at 949-1731 or 1-866-479-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the Emmonak ADF&G office at 949-1320. The Emmonak ADF&G office will stand by on VHF channel 7A. The Emmonak Field Office will be closing for the season at 5:00 p.m. Thursday, August 30. For further information, please contact the Fairbanks ADF&G office at 459-7274.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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